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proy to doubt as to his abilities, and more than half diagnosed with the pen and the life of doggedly that, in the great majority of cases, follows in its wake.

THE LOVE OF FLOWERS.

Many persons, especially of the stronger sex, are apt to consider love of flowers effeminate. Perhaps it may be, but, nevertheless, it carries with it a refinement of taste highly commendable. We know of a gentleman with a little taste of roses in his button-hole, or a lady with a bouquet, that we do not feel instinctively that we are in the presence of a human being whose thoughts and sentiments are above those of the common mass. Doubtless, flowers were thick in Capa, and their subtle perfume may have had a little to do with turning the Carthaginian warriors into sybarites, but even for that offense we must forgive them.

Flowers are the emblem of peace and love, and the heart that cherishes them cannot be otherwise than peaceful and loving. They strew the church on festive occasions, deck the marriage feast, and are laid on the coffin—and in all these instances they bring with them a sense of comfort, quietude and resignation. The church is all the brighter for their presence, the marriage feast all the more joyous, and the coffin all the less mournful. Mr. Hemans, or some other English poet, called them "day-stars," and no name could possibly be more appropriate, for like stars they light up our homes and our hearts, and fill us with the cheerfulness of their presence. The blue vault above us would lack half its beauty without the stars, and the earth would be dull and dark indeed without its flowers.

To our notice, the hanging-basket, with its masses of drooping buds, makes a room, barren of all other ornament, a place of attraction and endearment. The bare walls of a hospital become cheerful when their dreary blankness is relieved with a few garlands of humble flowers, and we are told that the invalids of these places of refuge for the suffering poor experience relief in their presence, and are more easily cured when they can cast their eyes upon them and drink in their modest beauty and healthful fragrance. Hence, the kind ladies of the various orders of religious life, in these realms of affliction, are blessed for so doing by their fellow-laborers in distress. The flower missions are styled beautiful charities, and, in truth, they are so.

We have all read in Santaline's eloquent language the touching story of Count Charly and his "Piccola," the little gillyflower that illumined the darkness of his prison house, and who shall say that in his case the love of the tiny plant was not a benefit and a blessing. We say to everybody, stir up your dormant affection and love the flowers with the Omnipotent has caroled the earth. They are here for a purpose, and that purpose is to minister to the happiness of the human race. Love the flowers, and pass them by the seer and the inanimate who would endeavor to lessen your thorough appreciation of them and the holy calm they inspire.

OUR BANQUET CHAT.

In a recent article on "Cards by Post," the London World says: "Our modern practice of interchanging cards is scarcely to be explained on any rational theory of social intercourse. The duty of leaving cards at houses where a dance or dinner has been given or may be anticipated, falls as a serious tax on the time and strength of all classes, but especially of the carriage-driving portion of the community, and a grievance which was trifling when London distances were less enormous calls for a remedy when, simply to deliver a card into the hands of a footman, may involve a pilgrimage from Prince's Gate to Portland Place, or from Baywater to Westminster. No better remedy can be suggested than that which is the most obvious one—namely, the transmission of cards to their destinations through the postoffice. Why should not the recognition of hospitable favors be conveyed as well in a sealed letter, or better still, on the blank side of a half-penny card, engraved with the name of the grateful guest, as on the piece of card-board at present in vogue? Inasmuch as it saves less of a surreptitious attempt to evade the strict letter of etiquette, this plan is, at least, preferable to the alternative plan, commonly resorted to by single gentlemen, of leaving their cards with a butler over night, on trust to deliver them the following afternoon. If it should be feared that in passing through the post-office cards would lose the sentiment involved in them, it may be replied that they have long since lost any sentiment worth preserving. Originally they expressed, as they occasionally do now, a genuine interest at having failed to meet a friend; but their existing use is an extension and abuse of their original intention, destitute of any real feeling of friendliness, and expressive of nothing beyond a cold conformity to the received canon of politeness. The accumulated ingenuity of generations has seriously complicated the primitive simplicity of card-leaving. The exact significance of a dog-eared card, the fitting appointment of cards in a family, are among the questions which belong to the valets et vaugues, or will waste land, of unwritten etiquette and to expect any one to try about with him a complete knowledge of card-law is as little reasonable as to expect a man to possess a portable knowledge of the pedigrees of the Plantagenets."

SAYS the Boston Saturday Gazette: "There is a season of suspension of active operations in the Eastern war, following the Russian defeat at Plevna. The Russians appear to be massing bodies of troops as large as to render another defeat impossible. The nation needs to adopt this policy. She has suffered severely in prestige since the war with Turkey commenced. In fact, all of her advances have been won by overpowering numbers, or by the anarchy in the councils of her enemies. Whether Russia succeeds or not, it would seem that there need be less of jealousy of her than was expected to exist as the result of the war. The objection to her success on the part of the European powers will be in weight from the fact. The desire for it on the part of everybody else must be immeasurably increased by recent developments."

may be said to be a necessity in the interest of humanity, as well as of Christian civilization. The barbarities of the Turks, their revolting cruelties and fearful massacres of non-combatants, have sent a thrill of horror through the world. Frightful as they are to contemplate, they would be small in comparison with the ravaging and the butchery that would follow their repression of Bulgaria. The prayers of humanity everywhere should go with the Russians, because the Russians are the only bar to a slaughter of innocent and helpless people which the imagination shudders to contemplate. Civilization has known no such atrocities in warfare as if the Turks have shown themselves capable of perpetrating. Were the faded dragons of antiquity to come to life and reality, their permission to prey would be less a reproach than the toleration of a nation like Turkey in these deeds of horror. If she cannot be driven out of Europe, may its unfortunate Christian people be spared from the butchery which another Turkish victory would bring to them.

This following account of the manner in which the tobacco manufacture became a State monopoly in France will be found interesting. In the early part of 1810 Napoleon's attention was drawn to the magnificent diamonds worn by a certain lady, he inquired who she was, and learned that her husband was a tobacco manufacturer. In the following November a decree appeared which announced that this trade would in future be a State monopoly. It is to-day. There are sixteen factories.

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Russia has latterly increased her exports instead of curtailing them, and those who expected the war in the East to cause an immediately increased demand for American breadstuffs, as well as an advance in their price, have thus far been disappointed. England has certainly imported more wheat and flour since Russia declared war against Turkey than before, but Russia, at the same time, has increased its exports of these same commodities in a wonderful degree. For instance, the returns of the British board of trade show that the importations of wheat from Russia into England during the month of June last amounted to \$5,140,000, while during the corresponding month of 1876 their value was only \$965,000. The London Economist, in discussing these figures, attributes the comparatively large supplies of wheat received in England from the East to the effect of the war, and to the fact that the Russian available grain from the distant territories, some of it coming by rail through Germany, by the way of Marseilles, that it was the war, the editor of the Economist continues, "and not the recent rise in prices which gave this impulse to the consignments of grain from abroad, may be gathered from the fact that the month's imports of wheat from the undisturbed countries, notably America, are much less instead of greater, notwithstanding the high prices." Another cause assigned for the increased exports from Russia is the depreciation of the Russian paper money in that country. Paper roubles, which were worth thirty pence, English money, each in exchangeable value when the war broke out, are worth only twenty-four pence now—a depreciation of twenty per cent.

LITERARY NOTES.

We have received from Messrs. D. Appleton & Co. New York, "The History of the Theatre," which has just been issued as the second volume of Appleton's "Collection of Foreign Authors." Appleton's Theatre is one of the most complete and valuable of the kind in the English language. It contains a full and complete history of the theatre, from its origin to the present time. It is a work of great value to the student of the theatre, and to the general reader who is interested in the history of the drama.

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HOME CULTURE.
I.
SELF-TRAINING;
A COMPANION TO THE
"YOUNG LADY'S FRIEND,"
Compiled to Suit Life in America.
NEW YORK:
MRS. H. C. WARD.
CHAPTER III.
BREAKFAST—LUNCHEON—TEA.
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FARM AND GARDEN

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KEPS OF THE COMPANY HEAP.—A compact heap of good things on a farm where it is properly managed, but where it is allowed to grow and covered with a mass of weeds its value is very greatly reduced. It is had enough in its growth to feed a horse, but one of the worst of all places in a compact heap. If ripened there they will find it hard where they fall but will be carried in various directions of the wind and scattered into the soil, under the surface very diverse in position and condition. It is very growth. The farmer will find it hard to fight, if he does not take pains to order and scatter and hasten their development.

BERNARD KERN.—The St. Paul Dispatch has the following: "While we claim good seed will grow."

in where they fall but will be carried in various directions by the wind and scattered into the soil under conditions very favorable to their germination and subsequent growth. The farmer will find waste

"While we claim good seed will sometimes grow under very unfavorable circumstances, we still allow a little charity for some sort of promise, which is evergreen sweet corn. The seed is sensitive to cold and wet that good seed almost always fails if planted too early. We thoroughly last year spring we planted half of a quart package on the 18th of May, which failed to come up at all. Later, but suspecting the seed was good, the seed was planted during the warm rainy time.

June 10, and 80 per cent. is green, strong and finely. The best seed of this sort hardly ever yields 70 per cent. that will germinate. As com-

NEED FOR DECISIONS—The Germanian ranch says: "For many years we enjoyed the services of a local agent for the advantages of offering a premium for the best bred and most productive apples offered. As a premium for the best located, best yielding one, and divided into three parts, \$20, \$100 and \$80, it would do much to increase the quantity and quality of fruit in this section of country. The location is ideal for apples. If it is true is offered, but a number or not—with a single tree, or two of different kinds, carry off the premiums, and what it is to the people who are located here, we regularly set down in the list for the best and most productive farms respectively and

FRUITFUL AS A TREE. — The watermelon is perhaps only second in public estimation to the apple for its had effect on the opinion of the world. Like the other tropical fruits, it is a grain of truth in the belief. Melons picked when they are ripe, and transported by rail from the tropics, are then found to be the same as the seeds left until the day of sowing, are really among the most virtuous of fruits that can be in the stomach. Allowed to ripen on the ground, they are the most common cause of kept cool until eaten, these fruits of the season never gratifying to the taste, are harmful to the system. Like the tomato, it requires a certain amount of time to develop, not only with no fill results, but with de-

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RELIGIOUS NEWS.

Our Testamental Revision Committee on their 44th session on Friday, July 25th, after voting the first revision of Hosea, and proceeding the revision of Joel as far as the 7th verse first chapter. The Committee on the New Testament met on the previous day and carried the 2d of the second revision to the end of Acts, 17th v.

Seventh Day Baptists in Cummagaw, Penn., have fled and participated for laboring on

more Church of England clergymen have in Rome—the Rev. Douglas Hope, M.A., and Dr. James Beale White, M.A. It is announced that thirty persons, worshipping at Mr. Hope's church at Faversham, have announced their intention of joining the Roman Catholic Church. From Sir Leonard's, Walslow, St. Mary Magdalen's (Paddington), and St. John's (Holborn), Rome has likewise received, about to receive, several converts.

Christian Union says: "A curious aspect of these discussions about universal communion in the Church of England is the effectation of sudden and amazement at the discovery of it which has the able Ritualist press and platform. The

Four years ago 483 of the English clergy met the bishops to organize it regularly. This year of them are expected to promote it. The chance of it as a necessary condition has and is openly insisted on by well-considered bodies from the pulpit and in the Conference rooms has been put up in the scales and have been thronged with penitents during their turn. The Rev. Mr. Helwood, of Lewes says that before the great festival happens days in hearing confession. And yet when it comes out in the House of Lords the Archbishop of Canterbury is thunderstruck! O brother,

Massachusetts, but the following figures are based on a survey of the churches in Massachusetts. Estimates of the number of churches in the United States are based on a survey of the churches in the United States. The number of churches in the United States is estimated to be 1,540 churches, 760 to Methodist churches, and six Presbyterian churches. None of the statistics are included in these figures.

King of Holland, who annually selects a boy and girl to be educated at his expense, is year again chosen a Jewish boy and girl, to receive a stipend so that they may continue their artistic and scientific studies.

and the present number there is exactly six

meetings at one-fifth of the population of Hongkong, and one-third of the voters have the franchise. Wilson, of Bombay, one of the distinguished Scotch missionaries of India, is written by Dr. Duff, the well-known Scotch clergy, and will shortly be published.

The Evangelical Church of Prussia has about 600 of population, with 8,000 ministers, many congregations. Of the congregations it has the percentage of 2,000, and 8,000 are

number of members of the Society of Friends world, according to the latest return, is 70,000 of this number, there are in America, 30,712.

which Messenger deplores the fact that the
regimentation are so numerous, thinking
as they foster and more independence, the
impact of New York Justice would be
swiftly.

Immigrants take their people or lost path
prohibiting thought is different to get at the
and desire that the whole difference is that
get at by the wrong kind of people, and so
then perverted to the popular taste.

FARM AND GARDEN

[illegible][illegible]

BARBARIAN CULTURE IN BARBERSHOP—The failure to depend on frequently to make a success is eventually, to two or three things, all of which could overcome. It is a waste of time and energy to try to overcome. It is a waste of time and energy to try to overcome. It is a waste of time and energy to try to overcome.

KEPS OF THE COMPANY HEAP.—A compact heap of good things on a farm where it is properly managed, but where it is allowed to grow and covered with a mass of weeds in value is very much reduced. It is had enough in its growth to feed a horse, but one of the worst of all places in a compact heap. If ripened there they will find it hard where they fall but will be carried in various directions of the wind and scattered into the soil, under the surface very diverse in their action and in the quantity very growth. The farmer will find it hard to fight, if he does not take pains to order the seeds and hasten their development.

BERNARD KERN.—The St. Paul Dispatch has the following: "While we claim good seeds will grow."

which is vigorous sweet corn. The seed is sensitive to cold and wet that good seed almost always fails if planted too early. A thoroughly tested spring we planted half of a quart per acre on May 10, which failed to come up at all. In certainty the best time the seed was good, the seed was planted during the week of June 10, and 80 per cent. is green, strong and fine. The best seed of this sort hardly ever yields 70 per cent. that will germinate. As corn is not so wanted early, but is most desirable late, planters should delay sowing until the soil is warm enough to insure such abundant seed man much blamer.

MINIUM FOR DISCHARGE—The Germanium

"For more than 20 years I have been using

of advantage of offering a premium for the best planted and most productive apple orchards. If a premium of \$100 per acre is to be paid, and the premium is to be divided into three parts, \$30, \$30, and \$40, it would do much to increase the quantity and quality of fruit in the country where the society is located. A premium for apples, it is true, is offered, but a man—or woman, with a single tree, or two or three acres, may win the premium, and what is it that to apple culture? The fruit is not regularly weeded in the first five or ten years, and most productive farms, respectively of under thirty and not exceeding fifty acres, and land not exceeding 150 acres. These prices are likely to draw out considerable compe-

FRUITFUL AS A TREE.—The watermelon is perhaps only second in public estimation in summer for its bad effects as an article of diet. Like all other traditional poisons there are grains of truth in the belief. Melons picked early are full of seeds, and these seeds are full of mules, and then allowed to lie in the sun on the sidewalk until they are "mellow," are usually among the most vicious of fruits that can enter the stomach. Allowed to ripen on the picked early in the morning, kept good until eaten, these fruits of the season may contribute to the health and benefit to the system. Like the tomato is a mild aperient, but may be eaten liberally, not only with no ill results, but with de-

of diet for the poorer classes. In all the or-
namented, and especially in Pernia, they are
served with the most assiduous care, and truly
by all classes. The only reason why they are
ill-reputed here, where the soil and climate are
very natural, is because they are considered
as the one mentioned, that of being stale, and
are eaten. In this respect the Germans need
to fear. They can have them fresh and
seasoned, and they eat them morning, noon and
evening only with impunity, but with decided
loss to the health. But, like any other ripe fruit
or vegetable, they should be eaten only when
the stomach should not be glutted. If eaten
during their season and in moderate quantities,
under them the peer of the tomato, not only in

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

Old Testamental Revision Committee on their 43th session on Friday, July 13th, after settling the first revision of Hosea, and proceeding to the revision of Joel as far as the 7th verse of the first chapter. The Committee on the New

on hearing that it was the wish of his relations he should marry, she determined, like the rest with the fix to draw him so closely within

more Church of England clergymen have in Rome—the Rev. Douglass Hope, M. A., and Dr. James Jackson Webb, M. A. are secretaries.

the church at Folkestone have gone over to the Catholic Church. From St. Leonard's, Waverley, St. Mary Magdalene (Fiddington), and St. Helthorn, Rone has likewise received, sent to receive, several converts.

Christian Union says: "A curious aspect of the whole discussion about Anglican confusion in the Church of England is the effacement of sudden and amazement at the discovery of it which the anti-Ritualist press and platform. The matter has been perfectly well understood for the confusionists themselves, indeed, have done in a corner;" but as to the practice of

Four years ago the English clergy and the bishops to organise it regularly. This year of them are associated to promote it. The sense of it as a necessary condition has and is openly insisted on by well-ecumenicalists both from the pulpit and in the Confessional-boxes have been put up in the and have been thronged with penitents their turn. The Rev. Mr. Belshaw, of Lew- says that before the great festival he spends days in hearing confessions. And yet, when comes on in the House of Lords the Arch- of Canterbury is thunderstruck! O brother

tioned journal gives an interesting statement of the fruits of last winter's service in Massachusetts. Returns from 303 churches an accession of 4,809 by population, 2,534 added to Congregational churches 1,546 to churches, 769 to Methodist churches, and one Presbyterian church. None of the prizes are included in these figures.

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stated at one of the recently held temperance meetings that one-fifth of the population of Hampshire, and one-third of the voters have the temperance pledge.

The life of the late Dr. Wilson, of Bombay, one of the distinguished Scotch missionaries of India, is written by Dr. Duff, the well-known Scotch clergyman, and will shortly be published.

The Evangelical Church of Prussia has about 600,000 of population, with 3,000 ministers, many congregations. Of the congregations,

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